

Spring 1-15-2002

ENG 3803-001: English Literature 1500-1660

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3803-001

English 3803 Section 001
English Literature 1500-1660
Dr. Carol Stevens
Spring 2002
9:30-10:45 a.m. T, TH in Coleman Hall 3150

Contact Information
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Office Hours 1:30-3:00 MW, 3:30-4:30 TTH, and by appointment

Texts:

Abrams, et al. *Norton Anthology of English Literature Vol. 1*, 7th ed.
Martin, Randall, ed. *Women Writers in Renaissance England*.
(You will need the *Norton Anthology* at every class meeting. Bring *Women Writers* as specified in class.)

Course Prerequisites

English 1001G and 1002G or their equivalents, and at least sophomore standing.

Course Goals

By the end of this semester I hope you will be able to:

- ◆ Read with understanding and enjoyment the works of writers in sixteenth and early seventeenth century England.
- ◆ Understand the background, development, and nature of literary forms and genres in this period.
- ◆ Be aware of historical, social, and cultural forces, as they are reflected in the literature, which shaped the era of the Tudor and Stuart monarchies and the Interregnum.
- ◆ Be able to identify and explain some of the major intellectual and religious movements of the period as they are discussed in the literature.
- ◆ Be able to explicate texts from this period both orally and in writing with skill and understanding.
- ◆ Read and understand developing theories about the nature of literature.
- ◆ Read and apply recent works of literary theory and criticism to your studies in this period.

Course Description

England during the period from 1500 to 1660 is an age of enormous turmoil in politics, religion, science, law, even family life. Fortunately for us, the age generated some of the most widely recognized names in English literature: More, Sidney, Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, to name a few. Also at work during this period were a host of other writers whose names are less well known but whose work is equally significant, for instance Wroth, Phillips, Behn. Through the work of these artists and others we will examine central issues of humanism, Platonism, reformation, development and innovation in form and style, arguments in literary criticism, major debates in literature and philosophy, and politics, including the politics of writing and publishing.

Papers and Exams

You will write and submit two papers of 6-7 pages each during the term, and will also take two exams. Paper topics will be chosen from a range of options provided by the instructor, but will include a genre study and a researched literary analysis, and must be approved well in advance of due dates. You will also write two examinations, a full-period mid-term, and the final exam. Exams may include short answer questions based on class lecture and discussion as well as the reading, identification of passages, and essays. **Please check the exam schedule before you make mid-term or end-of-semester travel plans, as the exam schedule is not flexible; work and travel, by university policy, do not constitute legitimate reasons for rescheduling exams.**

Attendance and Participation

These are required. While the university has policies regarding excused and unexcused absences, in practical terms there is no difference. University policy considers sporadic attendance to be a form of classroom disruption. We will use a collaborative learning model which requires that everyone be fully prepared and willing to contribute to discussion every day. I will take attendance at the beginning of every class meeting.

If you are absent 1 or 2 times during the semester, 20 points for each absence will be deducted from your coursework points.

If you are absent 3 or 4 times, 40 points for each additional absence will be deducted from coursework points. If you miss four classes (two weeks), you have lost 120 points, not counting lost points on class assignments and other work due those days. ~~That~~ is already one full letter off your final grade.

If a situation occurs that is going to interfere with your attendance, especially if it will mean missing more than one class, NOTIFY ME by phone or e-mail so that you can make arrangements to keep up with work as much as possible. This may not change the number of points you lose for an absence, but it will help you bring the right assignments when you return.

Tardiness

If you are more than five minutes late, you will lose 10 points for that class session. If you are late more than twice, it goes up to 20 points per session.

However, if you are late/tardy no more than twice the entire semester, I will refund attendance/tardy points at the end of the semester.

Grades

Your course grade will be determined by the following:

Two papers, 200 points each

Two exams, 150 points each

Ten quizzes, journals, and shorter writing assignments, 100 points

Participation in discussion and group work, 200 points

901-1000 points = A, 801-900 = B, 701-800 = C, 601-700 = D, Below 600 = F

Late Assignment Policy

A paper handed in one day (NOT one class period) late will receive a 25-point deduction; if the paper is two days late, it will receive a 50-point deduction, and so forth. If you do not come to class on a day when a paper is due but place the paper in my mailbox that day, it will automatically be considered late. The same is true for coming to class more than five minutes late on the day a paper is due. Please plan ahead so that your work will be on time.

Academic Honesty

The English Department's statement on plagiarism is as follows: Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—"The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work" (*Random House Dictionary of the English Language*) has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including a grade of F for the assigned work and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office. I expect you to do your own work, to use only authorized help such as the Writing Center, conferences with me, and discussion groups in class. I expect you to use sources properly, with appropriate imbedding into your work, use of quotation, paraphrase, or summary as needed, with careful and painstaking documentation. This applies not only to books and articles but to media other than print, including all web and online sources.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodation, please contact the **Office of Disability Services** at 581-6583.

Syllabus/Schedule

You will receive a schedule of readings for the semester. This, as well as any other procedural or assignment material distributed in class becomes part of the syllabus for the course.

Paper Format

Papers must be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins, and stapled, with no binders, folders, or covers of any kind. Use a font No larger than this (12 points). Shorter assignments should have your name, the date, and the course number and section in the upper right corner. Papers should have a title page. Use MLA style and documentation format for all work.

Courtesies in the Classroom as Workplace

It is important to recognize that the literature classroom, like any other, is a workplace. We have a limited period of time in which to complete a great deal of work. We need complete attention for the entire class period each time we meet. As a teacher I prefer a relatively relaxed atmosphere, especially because I lecture only part of the time. Whether we are working together, in small groups, or quietly on our own, I expect us to be completely focused on the work at hand.

I promise to treat each of you with respect, and I expect the same of you. This means being on time, ready to work. It means listening courteously and attentively to each other, and disagreeing, when we disagree with each other, reasonably and without disparaging remarks. It means taking care of personal needs before or after class, no food or drink except water when permitted, cell phones and beepers turned off for the duration of class. As discussion moderator, I have a responsibility to see that everyone gets a chance to participate, so I may ask you to yield the floor to someone else.

These policies have been formulated to ensure that we accomplish our goals for the semester. Anyone who does not wish to abide by them is advised to drop the course now.

Please note: While I have made every effort to be as thorough in planning as possible, and intend to follow this syllabus carefully, changes will inevitably occur which may alter any of the policies or scheduling given here. While I will make every effort to confirm changes in writing, an announcement in class will be considered sufficient notification.

English 3803 Section 001
Schedule of Readings and Due Dates
Spring 2002

Jan. 8 Intro. to course, policies, procedures. For next time, in *Norton Anthology of English Literature*, Vol. 1, 7th ed. (hereafter referred to as *Norton*), Intro. to and selections from More's *Utopia*. After today, selections are indicated by the date the reading is to be DISCUSSED. For example, the *Norton* "The Sixteenth Century" etc. must be read by class time on Jan. 15. If changes are necessary in scheduling or works to be read, they will be announced in class. Read ahead wherever possible.

Jan. 10 Discuss *Utopia*.

Jan. 15 *Norton* "The Sixteenth Century" and More's *Richard III*.

Jan. 17 Intro. to and poetry of Sir Thomas Wyatt the Elder.

Jan. 22 Intro. to and poetry of Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey.

Jan. 24 Intro to and literature of the Sacred 538-564.

Jan. 29 " "

Jan. 31 Intro. to and selections from Ascham and Hoby.

Feb. 5 Edmund Spenser, intro. Book I of *Fairie Queene*.

Feb. 7 " "

Feb. 12 FIRST PAPER DUE also, selections from Shakespeare's Sonnets

Feb. 14 Writings of Queen Elizabeth I, and material on Elizabeth from Brown Women Writers Project, through EIU/Booth Library Online Services

Feb. 19 Mid-term Exam